

NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT: FARMING AND FARM FAMILIES IN DEKALB COUNTY

Oral History Interview  
with

BILL CLAUSEN

November 13th, 1986

5408 E. Rt. 38

DeKalb, Illinois

By Ed Gallagher

*Deed Available  
Off 3.6*

NORTHERN ILLINOIS REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

FARMING AND FARM FAMILIES IN DEKALB COUNTY

General topic of interview: Farming in Dekalb with a mid size farm supplemented by rental of additional acreage from the post war years to the present.

NARRATOR: BILL CLAUSEN  
DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 1986

INTERVIEWER: ED GALLAGHER  
PLACE: 5408 E. RT.38 DEKALB

PERSONAL DATA

Bill Clausen grew up on the farm that he lives in today. Born in 1926, he has witnessed significant change in farming. Along with his sister Bill inherited his farm land from his grandfather whom also lived and farmed this land. The Clausen farm is a mid sized farm with principle crops of corn and soy beans. Mr. and Mrs. Clausen raised both their daughter on this farm. Since leaving this farm their daughters have assumed careers in the medical profession. Mr. Clausen continues to farm a reduced acreage.

INTERVIEWER'S COMMENTS

This narrative offers a good overview of changes in Dekalb farming. Bill Clausen is a active member of Dekalb Farm Bureau and co-chairperson of Prime Timers, a social organization for retirement age farmers. Mr. Clausen admittedly is not good with dates but, has excellent recall of trends and events in American agriculture. Both before and after the taping of the interview Bill spoke at length about his career as a farmer and his view of the future of the American farmer. Bill Clausen spends his free time with several farm organizations and paints landscapes.

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NARRATOR: BILL CLAUSEN  
DATE: November 13, 1986  
LENGTH OF TAPE: 1.5 hours

INTERVIEWER: Ed Gallagher  
PLACE: 5408 E Rt 38, DeKalb

TAPE COUNTER NUMBER

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